TREASURY - GENERAL

STATE INVESTMENT COUNCIL

Money Market Funds

Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 17:16-37.1

Authorized By: State Investment Council, Peter A. Langerman, Director,

Division of Investment

Authority: N.J.S.A. 52:18A-91

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar

requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2004-122

Submit comments by June 4, 2004 to:

Peter A. Langerman Administrative Practice Officer Division of Investment PO Box 290 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0290

The agency proposal follows:

Summary

The proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 17:16-37.1 eliminate the Approved List of Money Market Funds; set a minimum net asset value of \$1 billion for permissible investments; and allow the Division to retain any investments that may fall below the net asset value criteria subsequent to purchase.

Given the thousands of individual investments comprising the Approved Lists, it has become unrealistic to expect that Council members will have extensive knowledge of all of these investments. Eliminating the Approved Lists at N.J.A.C. 17:16-37.1 (b) and (c), while at the same time providing criteria for selection of individual investments, gives recognition to the fact that the Council relies on the Division of Investment to have this in-depth knowledge and to select particular investments. Since the Division of

Investment will be reporting to the Council on investment activities, the Council shall continue to be able to fulfill its role of monitoring of investments contained in the various portfolios.

Pursuant to the proposed amendments at N.J.A.C. 17:16-37.1 (b), the Division of Investment is authorized to purchase only investments that meet the requirements set forth in the subchapter. However, there may arise, from time to time, certain unique circumstances where the Division wishes to purchase an investment that does not meet the requirements set forth in the subchapter. In such event, the proposed amendments provide that the Division could present justification to the Council, and the Council would have the authority to approve the purchase on a case-by-case basis.

Because the Division is providing a 60-day comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is exempt from the rulemaking calendar requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

Social Impact

There shall be no social impact from the proposed amendments, although the long term economic effects could benefit New Jersey taxpayers.

Economic Impact

A broader range of investment opportunities could provide higher returns and greater diversification for the State-administered funds.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because the investment policy rules of the Division of Investment are under the auspices of the State Investment Council, and are not subject to any Federal requirements or standards.

Jobs Impact

The State Investment Council and the Division of Investment do not anticipate that any jobs will be generated or lost by virtue of the amendments to this rule.

Agriculture Industry Impact

The proposed amendments shall have no impact on the agriculture industry.

Regulatory Flexibility Statement

A regulatory flexibility analysis is not required, since the proposed amendments impose no requirements on small businesses as the term is defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq., but regulate only the Director of the Division of Investment.

Smart Growth Impact

The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have an impact on the achievement of smart growth and implementation of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan.

Full text of the proposal follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

SUBCHAPTER 37. MONEY MARKET FUNDS

17:16-37.1 Permissible investments

- (a) [Permissible] Subject to the limitations contained in this subchapter, permissible investments include money market funds which invest primarily in money market securities authorized pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:16-11 and 17:16-31 through 36, [and] are in compliance with Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as promulgated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and have a minimum net asset value of \$1 billion. Subsequent to purchase, if the net asset value falls below \$1 billion, the investment does not have to be sold.
- [(b) The Director shall submit a list of money market funds to the Council for its approval. Such list may be amended or enlarged from time to time subject to the Council's approval and shall be designated the "Approved List of Money Market Funds."]
- (b) Notwithstanding the restrictions contained in this subchapter, the Council may approve the purchase of money market funds on a case-by-case basis.
- [(c) The Director shall only select money market funds from the "Approved List of Money Market Funds."]